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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/961,409	09/25/2001	Takayuki Ide	P 283750 SPO-2472	5520
909	7590	11/21/2006	EXAMINER	
PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN, LLP			SHAFFER, RICKY D	
P.O. BOX 10500			ART UNIT	
MCLEAN, VA 22102			PAPER NUMBER	
			2872	

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/961,409	IDE ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ricky D. Shafer	2872	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 11/08/2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

a) ☐ entered.

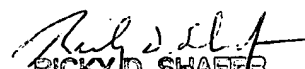
b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.

c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.

e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

  
**RICKY D. SHAFER**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**  
**ART UNIT ~~2871~~ 2872**